

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 249343

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APPROVED BY S/S-O:LMATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 249343

EXDIS, MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL REPEAT REYKJAVIK 1520 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO NATO COPEN-
HAGEN OSLO STOCKHOLM NOV 12

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1520

EXDIS

DEPT PASS COMICEDEFOR, CINCLANT AND SECDEF

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF AGREEMENT - TEXTS EXPECTED TO BE MADE PUBLIC
SOON BY GOI

1. FONMIN AGUSTSSON AT ALTHING THIS AFTERNOON, IN ANSWER
TO QUESTION FROM PEOPLES ALLIANCE MEMBER GILS GUDMUNDSSON,
ANNOUNCED THAT "IN ABOUT A FEW DAYS" HE WILL MAKE AVAILABLE
TO ALL THE ALTHING MEMBERS THE TEXTS OF THE DEFENSE AGREE-
MENT HE AND THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR SIGNED IN REYKJAVIK
OCTOBER 22ND.

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PAGE 02 STATE 249343

2. COMMENT: FONMIN HAS BEEN ATTACKED ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY

BY ALL SHADES OF POLITICAL OPINION, INCLUDING WITHIN HIS OWN PARTY, FOR HAVING PREVIOUSLY STATED THE ACTUAL TEXTS OF THE AGREEMENT WERE PRIVILEGED DOCUMENTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND HENCE WOULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC. THIS MORNING FONMIN ASKED ME WHETHER USG WAS STILL OF OPINION THAT TEXTS COULD BE MADE PUBLIC AND TOLD ME HE WOULD MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT PARA ONE ABOVE, IF WE APPROVE. I TOLD HIM WE STILL FELT THERE WAS NO REASON TO CLASSIFY THE DOCUMENTS BUT WE WOULD GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER HE WANTED TO DO ON THIS SCORE. HE IS HAVING THE DOCUMENTS TRANSLATED INTO ICELANDIC. WE AGREED THAT BEFORE THE ICELANDIC VERSION IS RELEASED TO THE ALTHING HANS ANDERSEN, CURRENTLY ABSENT FROM THE COUNTRY BUT DUE TO RETURN THIS WEEK, WILL LOOK THEM OVER FOR ACCURACY OF TRANSLATION. TRANSMISSION OF THE TEXTS TO ALTHING WILL TOUCH OFF EMOTIONALLY EXPLOSIVE DEBATE. I AGREED TO "BE AVAILABLE BY PHONE" DURING THE DEBATE TO HELP FONMIN ANSWER QUESTIONS THAT MIGHT ARISE. IRVING

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